

Block
Island.

CIRCULAR NO. 1.

[PUBLISHED JULY 1, 1900.]

Newport Natural History Society.

THE NATIVE MAMMALS OF RHODE ISLAND.

One of the objects of the Newport Natural History Society is the collection and preservation of specimens and facts relating to the native products of the State of Rhode Island. The undersigned has been requested to prepare a circular of inquiry respecting the mammals of this State, for the purpose of eliciting as much information as possible concerning them, with a view to preparing an authoritative list of the mammals which have inhabited Rhode Island during the period of its occupation by the Whites, and of any fossil species whose remains have been found within the State.

Some of the largest animals have already disappeared from Rhode Island, and others are on the verge of extinction. It is extremely unfortunate that any of our native mammals should have been allowed to pass away without so much as a record of their characters and peculiarities having been preserved. To provide against such a calamity in the future, the Newport Natural History Society proposes to preserve specimens and records of all that remain. To this end, an historic collection of State Mammals is being formed. The Society is especially desirous of obtaining without delay all of the species of mammals that are in imminent danger of extinction.

Living or mounted specimens, skins, bones (especially skulls), teeth, horns, nests, and all materials relating to Rhode Island mammalogy, will be welcome additions to the Society's museum, and will be gratefully received, acknowledged, and registered. They should be marked "specimens for the Newport Natural History Society," and sent to the address given below. The writer will be pleased to identify and return any specimens sent to him for determination.

Of fossil mammals and those which have been extirpated within the historic period, any remains, however imperfect or fragmentary, such as bones, teeth, horns, etc., should be sent to the Society's museum for preservation, as they are exceedingly precious. A jaw or horn of an Elk or Moose, dug from the soil of Rhode Island, would be much more valuable than a perfectly mounted specimen of the same animal from some other region.

The species of recent mammals which have been positively ascertained to belong to the fauna of Rhode Island are below enumerated, in list *A*; those whose presence or occurrence is supposed to be probable, on the ground of their having been found in the adjacent States or waters, are given in list *B*.

Respecting each of the animals given in lists *A* and *B*, information is requested as follows:—

a. Does it live in your locality at present? If so, is it common or rare?

b. If formerly present, but now extinct, give particulars concerning its extirpation, and the dates when the last individuals were seen or killed.

c. How many young are produced, and at what season?

d. Describe its nest, burrow, or habitation.

e. Give the times—exact dates when possible—of appearance and disappearance of such species as are migratory (e. g. the Red Bat), and of such as hibernate (Woodchuck, Jumping-mouse, etc.).

f. In what manner is it injurious or beneficial to man, in your district? (In the cases of noxious species, state the number destroyed during current and preceding years, and give the amounts paid out in bounties offered for their destruction; also give statistics or estimated numbers of food species annually sent to market, and of pelts of fur-bearing animals taken, together with any other facts relative to their economic uses.)

g. Give as many facts as you can, concerning the habits, actions, voice, traits, and general characteristics of each. If attempts have been made to breed any species in confinement, for economic uses, state with what result.

h. Add any information in your possession, supposed to be of interest in connection with Rhode Island mammals.

i. Name any species of mammals which have been found in Rhode Island, not given in list *A*, giving as full particulars as possible respecting each.

j. Give the names and addresses of persons who are especially interested in hunting or trapping mammals, and especially of those who deal in skins, or have formed collections of specimens.

k. Give full particulars concerning the discovery, at any time, of bones, teeth, horn or other remains of mammals in this State, and if possible, describe their present location and condition.

A. LIST OF THE WILD MAMMALS KNOWN TO HAVE INHABITED THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND DURING THE HISTORIC PERIOD.*

1. OPOSSUM. *Didelphis virginiana* Kerr.
2. COMMON BOTTLE-NOSE PORPOISE. *Tursiops tursio* (Fabricius).
3. COMMON DOLPHIN. *Delphinus delphis* Linnaeus.
4. HARBOR PORPOISE; PUFFING PIC; SNUFFER. *Phocena phocena* (Linnaeus).
5. BLACKFISH; PILOT WHALE. *Globicephalus melas* (Traill).
6. WHITE WHALE; BELUGA. *Delphinapterus leucas* (Pallas).
7. BOTTLE-NOSE WHALE. *Hyperoodon rostratus* (Gmelin).
8. SPERM WHALE. *Physeter macrocephalus* Linnaeus.
9. RIGHT WHALE. *Balaena glacialis* Cope.
10. FIN-BACK WHALE. *Sibbaldius rectirostris* Cope.
11. VIRGINIAN DEER. *Odocoileus virginianus* (Boddart).
12. MOOSE. *Alce americanus* Jardine.

*All are native except the House Rat and House Mouse. Several naturalized races of Man (*Homo sapiens* Linnaeus) are omitted, among them the subspecies *europaeus*, *asaticus*, and *affinis*, all of Linnaeus; but the native Red Man is included.

13. SOUTHEASTERN RED SQUIRREL. *Sciurus hudsonicus loquax* Bangs.
14. NORTHERN GRAY SQUIRREL. *Sciurus carolinensis leucotis* (Gapper).
15. NORTHEASTERN CHIPMUNK. *Tamias striatus lystris* (Richardson).
16. WOODCHUCK; GROUNDHOG. *Arctomys monax* (Linnaeus).
17. SOUTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL. *Sciuropterus volans* (Linnaeus).
18. AMERICAN BEAVER. *Castor canadensis* Kuhl.
19. HOUSE MOUSE. *Mus musculus* Linnaeus.
20. HOUSE RAT; WHARF RAT. *Mus decumanus* Pallas.
21. NORTHEASTERN DEER MOUSE; BUCK MOUSE. *Peromyscus leucopus* *noveboracensis* (Fischer).
22. COMMON RED-BACK MOUSE. *Erythomys gapperi* (Vigors).
23. COMMON MEADOW-MOUSE. *Microtus pennsylvanicus* (Ord).
24. NORTHERN PINE MOUSE. *Microtus pinetorum scalopsoides* (Audubon and Bachman).
25. MUSKRAT. *Fiber zibellinus* (Linnaeus).
26. MEADOW JUMPING-MOUSE. *Zapus hudsonius* (Zimmermann).
27. NORTHEASTERN COTTONTAIL. *Lepus floridanus transitionalis* (Bangs).
28. SOUTHERN VARVING HARE. *Lepus americanus virginianus* (Harlan).
29. NORTHEASTERN PANTHER. *Felis oregonensis hippolestes* (Merriam).
30. WILDCAT. *Lynx rufus* (Gueldenstaedt).
31. RED FOX. *Vulpes fulvus* Desmarest.
32. TIMBER WOLF. *Canis occidentalis* (Richardson).
33. BLACK BEAR. *Ursus americanus* Pallas.
34. RACCOON. *Procyon lotor* (Linnaeus).
35. NORTHEASTERN OTTER. *Lutra canadensis* (Schreber).
36. SKUNK. *Mephitis mephitis* (Shaw).
37. SOUTHEASTERN MINK. *Putorius (Lutreola) vison lutreoccephalus* (Hartlan).
38. BONAPARTE WEASEL. *Putorius cicognani* (Bonaparte).
39. NEW YORK WEASEL. *Putorius noveboracensis* Emmons.
40. FISHER. *Mustela pennanti* Erxleben.
41. GREENLAND SEAL; HARP SEAL. *Phoca groenlandica* Fabricius.
42. HARBOR SEAL. *Phoca vitulina* Linnaeus.
43. MASKED SHREW. *Sorex personatus* I. Geoffroy St. Hilaire.
44. SHORT-TAIL SHREW. *Blarina brevicauda* (Say).
45. STAR-NOSE MOLE. *Condylura cristata* (Linnaeus).
46. SILVERY BAT. *Lasionycteris noctivagans* (Le Conte).
47. LARGER BROWN BAT. *Vesperilio fuscus* Beauvois.
48. HOARY BAT. *Lasionycteris cinereus* (Beauvois).
49. RED BAT. *Lasionycteris borealis* (Miller).*
50. RED MAN; AMERICAN INDIAN. *Homo sapiens americanus* Linnaeus.

NOTE.—The mammals inhabiting the islands off the coast of Rhode Island, including those of Narragansett Bay, are of special interest, and lists of the species belonging to each island are much desired. A distinct species of Meadow-mouse (*Microtus nesophiles* Bailey) is restricted to two small islands in Long Island Sound, New York; and Mr. Outram Bangs, who has collected the mammals of Block Island, R. I., and compared them with the mainland forms which they represent, is of the opinion that some will require separation. Critical comparisons of all our insular mammals with those of the mainland will perhaps result in other additions to the present list than those which are expected to result from Mr. Bangs's studies of the Block Island species.

*A 'Right Brown or Wood Bat,' familiar to Mr. Frank Blake Webster, at Lonsdale and Dagsburg, Rhode Island, from 1867 to 1884, was probably a species of *Myotis* or *Pipistrellus*.

B. LIST OF THOSE SPECIES OF RECENT MAMMALS WHOSE OCCURRENCE
IN RHODE ISLAND MAY BE LOOKED FOR WITH SOME DEGREE OF PROBA-
BILITY.*

1. STRIPED DOLPHIN. *Lagenorhynchus acutus* Gray.
2. KILLER. *Orca orca* (Linnæus).
3. GRAY GRAMPUS; COW FISH. *Grampus griseus* (Cuvier).
4. NORTHEASTERN FOX SQUIRREL. *Sciurus ludovicianus vicinus* Bangs. *Extinct*
5. SOUTHEASTERN CHIPMUNK. *Tamias striatus striatus* (Linnæus).
6. CANADIAN FLYING SQUIRREL. *Sciuropterus sabrinus macrotis* Mearns.
7. BLACK RAT. *Mus rattus* Linnæus. *Very Plentiful*
8. CANADIAN DEER MOUSE. *Peromyscus canadensis* (Miller).
9. CAVE RAT. *Neotoma pennsylvanica* Stone.
10. NEW JERSEY RED-BACK MOUSE. *Evotomys gapperi rhoadsi* Stone.
11. ROCK VOLE. *Microtus chrotorrhinus* (Miller).
12. BOG LEMMING. *Synaptomys cooperi* Baird.
13. WOODLAND JUMPING-.MOUSE. *Napæozapus insignis* Miller.
14. CANADIAN PORCUPINE. *Erethizon dorsatus* (Linnæus). *Extinct*
15. SOUTHEASTERN COTTONTAIL. *Lepus floridanus mallurus* (Thomas).
16. CANADIAN LYNX. *Lynx canadensis* (Kerr). *Extinct*
17. GRAY FOX. *Urocyon cinereoargenteus* (Schreber). *u*
18. WOLVERINE. *Gulo luscus* (Linnæus). *u*
19. NORTHEASTERN MINK; LITTLE BROOK MINK. *Putorius (Lutreola) vison vison* (Schreber). *u*
20. MARTEN. *Mustela americana* Turton.
21. HOODED SEAL. *Cystophora cristata* (Erxleben).
22. WATER SHREW. *Sorex (Neosorex) albibarbis* (Cope).
23. SMOKY SHREW. *Sorex fumeus* Miller.
24. BIG-TAIL SHREW. *Sorex macrurus* Batchelder.
25. HOY SHREW. *Sorex hoyi* Baird.
26. SMALLER SHORT-TAIL SHREW. *Blarina parva* (Say).
27. NAKED-TAIL MOLE. *Scalops aquaticus* (Linnæus).
28. HAIRY-TAIL MOLE; BREWER MOLE. *Parascalops breweri* (Bachman).
29. LITTLE BROWN BAT. *Myotis lucifugus* (Le Conte). *Present*
30. SAY BAT. *Myotis subulatus* (Say).
31. GEORGIAN BAT. *Pipistrellus subflavus subflavus* (F. Cuvier).
32. DUSKY BAT. *Pipistrellus subflavus obscurus* Miller.

NOTE.—Among fossil mammals, species of the Walrus, Peccary, Horse, Elephant, Mastodon, and the Beaver-like *Castoroides*, are to be looked for.

*These have been found in neighboring States or waters. Some are now extinct, but records or remains of them may exist.

EDGAR A. MEARNS.

Prepared and signed at the request of the Newport Natural History Society
by Doctor EDGAR A. MEARNS, U. S. A., to whom replies may be addressed,
at Fort Adams, Newport, R. I.

Published by order of the Council,
AMORY AUSTIN, Secretary. A. O'D. TAYLOR, President.

Circular No. 1.

(Published July 1, 1900.)

Newport Natural History Society.

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One of the objects of the Newport Natural History Society, is the collection and preservation of specimens and facts relating to the native products of the State of Rhode Island. The undersigned has been requested to prepare a circular of inquiry respecting the ~~the~~ mammals of this state, for the purpose of eliciting as much information as possible concerning them, with a view to preparing an authoritative list of the mammals which have inhabited Rhode Island during the period of its occupation by the Whites, and of any fossil species whose remains have been found within the State.

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the verge of extinction. It is extremely unfortunate that any of our native mammals should have been allowed to pass away without so much as a record of their characters and peculiarities having been preserved. To provide against such a calamity, ^{in future} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~Society~~ the Newport Natural History Society proposes to preserve specimens and records of all that remain. To this end an historic collection of State Mammals is being formed. The Society is especially desirous of obtaining without delay all of the species of mammals that are in ~~the~~ imminent danger of ~~extinction~~.

Living or mounted specimens, skins, bones (especially skulls), teeth, horns, nests, and all materials relating to Rhode Island mammalogy, will be welcome additions to the Society's museum, and will be gratefully received, acknowledged, and registered. They should be ~~addressed~~ sent to the writer at the address given below, ~~and~~ marked 'Specimens for the Newport Natural History Society,' and sent to the address given below. The writer will be pleased to identify and return any specimens

sent to him for ³ determination.

Of fossil mammals, and those which have been extirpated within the historic period, any remains, however imperfect or fragmentary, such as bones, teeth, horns, etc., should be sent to the Society's museum for preservation, as they are exceedingly precious. A jaw or horn of an Elk or Moose, dug from the soil of Rhode Island, would be much more valuable than a perfectly mounted specimen of the same animal from some other region.

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The species of mammals which have been positively ascertained to belong to the fauna of Rhode Island are ^{below} enumerated, in list A; those whose ~~whose~~ presence or is ~~to be to~~ supposed to be more or less probable, on the ground of ^{their} having been found in the adjacent States or waters, are given in list B.

Respecting each of the animals given in lists A ^{and B}, information is requested as follows: —

a. Does it live in your locality at present? If so, is it common or rare?

b. If formerly present, but now extinct, give particulars concerning its extirpation, and the dates when the last individuals were seen or killed.

c. How many young are produced, and at what season?

d. Describe its nest, burrow, or habitation.

e. Give the times — exact dates when possible — of appearance and disappearance of such ^{species} as are migratory (e. g. the Red Bat), and of such as hibernate (Woodchuck, Jumping-mouse, etc.).

~~f. Give as many facts as you can concerning the habits, actions, voice, traits, and general characteristics of each, including economical relations with man, ^{especially} the care of fur-bearing mammals and those used as food. Statistics on ~~as~~~~

f. In what manner is it injurious or beneficial to man, in your district? (In the cases of noxious species, state the number destroyed during current and preceding years, and give the amounts paid out in bounties offered for their destruction; also give statistics or estimated numbers of food species, ^{annually} sent to market, and of pelts of fur-bearing animals taken, together with any other facts relative to ~~their~~ economic uses.)

g. Give as many facts as you can concerning the habits, actions, voice, traits, and general characteristics of each ~~as~~ ^{including}. State whether attempts to breed any species in confinement have been made, ~~state with what~~ for economic uses. h. Add any information in your possession, supposed to be of interest in ~~the~~ this connection.

i. Name any species of mammals which have been found in Rhode Island, not given in list A, giving as full particulars as possible respecting ~~them~~ each.

"

8. Give the names and addresses of any persons
who are especially interested in hunting or
trapping mammals, and especially of those
who ^{deal in skins or} have formed collections of specimens.

9. Give full particulars concerning the dis-
covery, at any time, of bones, teeth, horns or
other remains of mammals in this State,
and, if possible, give their present location.

B. List of those species of recent
Mammals whose occurrence in Rhode
Island may be looked for with some
degree of probability.*

Fort Adams,
Newport Rhode Island. ^{Edgar A. Mearns}

Printed by order of the Council.

A. O'D. Taylor,
President

Amory Austin,
Secretary.

* These have been found in neighbouring
States or waters. Some are now extinct,
but records or remains of them may exist.

* All are native except the House Rat and House Mouse. Several naturalized races of ~~the~~ Man (Homo sapiens Linnaeus) are omitted, among them the subspecies europaeus, asiaticus, and afro, all of Linnaeus; but the native Red Man (Homo sapiens) is included.

Note. — The mammals inhabiting the islands off the coast of Rhode Island, including those of Narragansett Bay, are and lists of the species inhabiting each island are much desired. A distinct species of special interest, a Meadow Mouse (Microtus mescophilus Bailey) ~~is~~ is restricted to two small islands in Long Island Sound, New York; and Mr. Octavius Bangs, who has collected the mammals of Block Island, R. I., is of the opinion that

Block Island, R. I., and compared them with the mainland forms which they represent, is of the opinion that some will require separation.

~~After~~ Critical comparisons of all our similar mammals with those of the mainland will ~~perhaps~~ result in ^{other} ~~several~~ additions to the present list than those which ~~Mr. Bangs~~ ^{which are} expected to result from Mr. Bangs's studies of the Block Island species. ~~Lists of~~

Wild
List of the Mammals Known to have

inhabited the State of Rhode Island during
the Historic Period*.

1. Didelphis virginiana Kerr. Opossum.
1. Opossum. Didelphis virginiana Kerr.
2. Common Bottlenose Porpoise.
Tursiops tursio (Fabricius).
3. Common Dolphin.
Delphinus delphis Linnaeus.
4. Harbor Porpoise; Puffing Pig; Swuffer.
Phocaena phocaena (Linnaeus).
5. Blackfish.
Globicephalus melas (Graill).
6. Delphinapterus White Whale; Beluga.
Delphinapterus leucas (Pallas).
7. Hyperoodon Bottlenose Whale.
Hyperoodon rostratus (Chemnitz).
8. Sperm Whale.
Physeter macrocephalus Linnaeus

* ~~accident~~ ~~except~~ ~~the house Rat, and House Mouse~~

Right Whale. 2

9. Balaena eisarctica Cope.

10. Fin-back Whale.

Sibbaldius tektirostris Cope.

11. Virginian Deer.

Odocoileus virginianus (Boddaert).

12. Moose.

Alce americanus Jardine.

13. ~~Sciurus~~ ^{Sciurus} Southwestern Red Squirrel.

Sciurus hudsonicus loquax Bangs.

14. ~~Sciurus~~ Northern Gray Squirrel.

Sciurus carolinensis leucotis (Gapper).

15. Northeastern Chipmunk.

Tamias striatus lysteri (Richardson).

16. Woodchuck, Groundhog.

Arctomys monax (Linnaeus).

17. Southern Flying Squirrel.

Sciuropterus volans (Linnaeus).

18. American Beaver.

Castor canadensis Kuhl.

19. House Mouse.
Mus musculus Linnaeus.

20. House Rat; Wharf Rat.
Mus decumanus Pallas.

21. Northeastern Deer Mouse; Buck Mouse.
Peromyscus leucopus noveboracensis (Fischer).

22. Common Red-back Mouse.
Evotomys gapperi gapperi (Vigors).

23. Common Meadow Mouse.
Microtus pennsylvanicus (Ord).

24. Northern Pine Mouse. *Microtus pinetorum scalopsoides* (Audubon and Bachman).

25. Muskrat.
Fiber zibethicus (Linnaeus).

26. Meadow Jumping-mouse.
Zapus hudsonius (Zimmermann).

27. Northeastern Cottontail.
Lepus floridanus transitionalis (Bangs).

28. Southern Varying Hare.
Lepus americanus virginianus (Harlan).

29. ~~Felis~~ Northeastern Panther.

Felis

30. Wildcat.

Lynx rufus (Gmelin).

31. Red Fox. fulvus Desmarest

Vulpes pennsylvanicus (Boddart).

32. Timber Wolf.

Canis occidentalis (Richardson).

33. Black Bear.

Ursus americanus Pallas.

34. Raccoon.

Procyon lotor (Linnaeus).

35. Northeastern Otter.

Lutra canadensis (Schreber).

36. Skunk.

Mephitis mephitis (Shaw).

37. Southeastern Mink. Putorius (Lutreola)
vision lutreoccephalus (Harlan).

38. Putorius ecognatus (Bonaparte).

Bonaparte Weasel.

39. New York Weasel.
Putorius noveboracensis Eumoua.

40. Fisher.
Mustela pennanti Erxleben.

41. Phoca groenlandica Fabricius.
 Greenland Seal; Harp Seal.

42. Harbor Seal.
Phoca vitulina Linnæus.

43. Masked Shrew.
Sorex personatus J. Geoffroy St. Hilaire.

44. Short-tail Shrew.
Blarinia brevicauda (Say).

45. ~~Co~~ Star-nose Mole.
Condylura cristata Linnæus.

46. Silvery Bat.
Lasionycteris noctivagans (Le Conte).

47. Larger Brown Bat.
Vespertilio fuscus Beauvois.

48. Hairy Bat.

Lasurus cinereus (Beauvois).

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49. Red Bat.

Lasurus borealis (Müller).*

50. American Indian or Red Man.

Homo sapiens americanus Linnaeus.

51. European or White Man in Caucasian.
Homo sapiens europaeus

* All are native except the House Rat & House Mouse. Other naturalized mammals are the White Man, Caucasian. Several naturalized races of the human species are omitted. Caucasian.

Note. — The mammals inhabiting the islands off the coast of Rhode Island are of special interest.

[Insert note on smaller mammals here.]

* A "light Brown or Wood Bat," ~~was~~ familiar to Mr. Frank Blake Webster, at Lonsdale and Daggets, Rhode Island, from 1867 to 1884, was probably a species of Nyctis or Pipistrellus.

B. List of Mammals whose occurrence
may
should ~~be looked for in Rhode Island.~~
species of recent

B. List of those Mammals which may
be looked for in Rhode Island
with some degree of probability.
These have been found in neighboring
States or waters. ~~Some have disappeared, but~~
~~records and remains should be looked for may exist.~~

C. Killer. Orca orca (Linnaeus).

*1. Striped Dolphin. *Lagenorhynchus*
acutus Gray.

3. Gray Grampus. *Grampus griseus*
(Cuvier).

4. Northeastern Fox Squirrel.

Sciurus ludovicianus vicinus Bangs.

5. Southeastern Chipmunk.

Tamias striatus striatus (Linnaeus).

6. *Sciuropterus* Canadian Flying Squirrel.
Sciuropterus sabrinus macrotis Mearns.

7. *Mus rattus* Linnaeus.

Black Rat.

8. Canadian Deer Mouse.
Peromyscus canadensis (Miller).

9. Cave Rat. Neotoma pennsylvanica Stone.

10. Evotomys gapperi rhoadsi Stone.
New Jersey Red-back Mouse.

11. Microtus chrotorrhinus (Miller).
Rock Vole.

12. Synaptomys cooperi Baird.
Bog Lemming.

13. Woodland Jumping-mouse.
Napaeozapus insignis Miller.

14. Canadian Porcupine.
Erethizon dorsatus (Linnaeus).

15. Southeastern Cottontail.
Lepus floridanus pallurus (Thomas).

16. Canadian Lynx.
Lynx canadensis (Kerr).

17. Gray Fox.

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Urocyon cinereoargenteus (Schreber).

18. Gulo luscus (Linnaeus).
Wolverine.

19. Northeastern Mink.

Putorius vison vison (Schreber).

20. Marten. Mustela americana Linton.

21. Hooded Seal.

Cystophora cristata (Erxleben).

22. Water Shrew.

Sorex (Neosorex) albibarbis (Cope).

23. Smoky Shrew. Sorex fumatus Miller.

24. Big-tail Shrew.

Sorex macrurus Batchelder.

25. Hoy Shrew. Sorex hoyi Baird.

26. Smaller Short-tail Shrew.

Blarina parva (Day).

28. Brewer Mole; ⁴ Hairy-tail Mole.

Parascalops breweri (Bachman).

27. ♂ Naked-tail Mole.

Ocalops aquaticus (Linnaeus).

29. Little Brown Bat.

Myotis lucifugus (Le Conte).

30. Day Bat. Myotis subulatus (Day).

31. Georgia Bat. Pipistrellus
subflavus subflavus (A. C. L. Cuvier).

32. Dusky Bat. Pipistrellus
subflavus obscurus Miller.

~~33.~~ Among mammals,

Note. - Fossil species of ~~the~~ Walrus, Peccary,
Horse, Elephant, Mastodon, and Castorides
should be looked for. should be
looked for.

Edgar A. Mearns

Fort Adams, Newport, R. I.

Published by order of the Council
among Austin, Secretary a. o. d. Taylor, President.

The Native Mammals of Rhode Island.

Perhaps no branch of Rhode Island natural history has been more neglected than the class of Mammals. When this society assigned me the task of collecting the available data for a Review of the Native Mammals of Rhode Island, I discovered was surprised to find no treatise or even list of Rhode Island mammals. Some years ago our President, Mr. A. O. D. Taylor, read a communication on the small mammals of this island before the Newport Natural History Society. In Randall's Notes, a Providence magazine on natural history, published from 1884 to 1886, Mr. J. M. Southwick has published several notes on Rhode Island mammals. The rest of the literature of this subject is scattered through ~~several~~ Specimen dealers' advertisements, newspapers, the Colonial Records and early State and general histories. But even after these scattered mentionings of Rhode Island mammals have been laboriously assembled (as I have yet been able to do but incompletely) we find ourselves sadly lacking

in definite information concerning them. Game laws and records paid in bounties give some definite facts. On the 1st of July, 1900, I found myself prepared to present a rough list of our mammals in connection with a circular of inquiry on this subject, issued by the Newport Natural History Society. This (so far as I can ascertain ^{of Circular No. 119}) contains the only printed ~~enumeration~~^{catalogue} of the mammals of our State. Fifty (50) species are enumerated, beginning with the Opossum (the lowest form) and ending with the Indian or Native Red Man (the highest species of mammal). The list was prepared with ~~at~~ care, and the nomenclature was abreast of the time. No record has been successfully challenged; but one or two changes of nomenclature will doubtless be necessary in the finished report review which I expect to present to you during the present year. The classic Mephitis mephitica (Shaw) may have to be changed to Chinchilla putida an older name of Boitard; and, also following the law of priority, Mus decumanus of Pallas must be replaced by the earlier Mus norvegicus of Eixleben for the introduced common House Rat.

But the first list of 50 species will stand practically intact. Since its publication, nearly two years ago, and partly as a result of its circulation ~~throughout the State~~ which elicited correspondence throughout the State, no less than seven (7) species have been added to our mammal fauna. Of these seven additions, six were included in ^{list "B" of} our circular, which enumerates "Those species of Recent Mammals whose occurrence in Rhode Island may be looked for with some degree of probability (species found in neighboring states or waters); and the seventh — the Elk — is mentioned on page 1. We now have an authentic list of 57 species of mammals for the State of Rhode Island. The seven additions to the original list of 50 are as follows:

1. Cervus Canadensis Elk
2. Mus rattus Linnaeus. Black or Blue Rat.
3. Erethizon dorsatus (Linnaeus). Canadian Porcupine.
4. Urocyon cinereoargenteus (Schreber). Gray Fox.
5. Cystophora cristata (Erxleben). Hooded Seal.
6. Toromys fumatus Miller. Smoky Shrew.
7. Pipistrellus subflavus subflavus (F. Cuvier). Georgian Bat.

~~Fieldwork~~

At Chepachet, in Providence Co., R. I., my (4)
son and I spent ^{the first} eight days of September, 1800.
1900.

We obtained ⁷³ ~~72~~ specimens of 13 species, as follows:

- 1 Red Squirrel
- 2 Chipmunk
- 3 House Rat
- 4 Buck Mouse
- 5 Red-backed Mouse
- 6 Muskrat
- 7 Red Fox
- 8 Skunk

- 9. New York Weasel.
- 10. Short-tailed or Mole Shrew.
- 11. Smoky Shrew
- 12. Larger Brown Bat
- 13. Red Bat.

Species of which
Besides the specimens taken, we obtained evidence of the occurrence of many others, including the Canadian Porcupine and Block Rat, which were not included in our original list of R. I. mammals, given in Circular 1. The Wildcats, Otter, Deer, and Raccoon are not uncommon at Chepachet. I saw a caged Fox Squirrel which possibly came from this state, though the evidence was negative, the animal having changed hands several times.

While on sick leave, I spent the period from November 21 to Dec. 24, 1900, at Lake cottage, on the edge of Lake Worden, the largest ~~sheet of~~ fresh-water lake in Rhode Island; and the lake is surrounded by the Great Swamp, the largest cedar swamp in the State.

With the assistance of the Knowles family I collected specimens as follows:

1. Red Squirrel	12		Cottontail Rabbit	20
2. Gray Squirrel	3		Varying Hare	12
3. House Rat	1		Gray Fox (skull)	1
4. Buck Mouse	101		Skunk	3
5. Red-backed Mouse	24		Mink	11
6. House Mouse	8		New-York Weasel	3
7. Meadow-mouse	34		Masked Shrew	19
8. Muskrat	4		Short-tailed or Mole Shrew	18

Total 16 species and 274 individuals.
Another record of the capture of a Fisher is southern R. I.

The Chipachet and Kingston collections were forwarded to the U. S. National Museum, where I subsequently made a critical comparison with similar forms from other regions, accurately determining the subspecies or geographic race to which each belongs.

Bottle-nosed Whale

6

Seal at Ash's Fishmarket

Red Fox killed near Goose Neck

Gray Squirrels at Hanging Rock.

Common small mammals of the Island. { Meadow-mouse or Vole.
Short-tailed or Mole-Shrew
White-footed or Deer Mouse

Dear increasing in Rhode Island.

Circular I sent to 38 Town Clerks.

Collecting trips to Chepachet in summer
" " Great Swamp, S. Kingston, in winter.

Notes from the Hazards of Wakefield

Notes of Otter come from all parts of the State

The Hon. Alexander Eddy of Chepachet

Mr. Baker, the principal fur-dealer of Providence
annually purchases of

Otter	2 or 3 R. I. specimens	annually	at \$8 to \$12
Skunk	2500 to 3000	"	25¢ to \$2 ⁰⁰
Mink	200	"	\$3.
Red Fox	50 to 75	"	\$2. to \$5.
Raccoon	50 to 75	"	60¢ to \$1.
Musk Rat	2000	"	10¢ to 20¢

If any person present knows the history of the
two skulls of the Bottle-nosed Porpoise (Tursiops tursio),
up on the high shelf to your left, I would be glad
to get it after the meeting. I think I have been told they came from
Easton's Pond

The Common Puffer or little Harbor Porpoise
Phocaena phocaena ⁷) frequently came ashore about
Brenton's Point during the past summer & autumn.

The Little Brown Bat (Myotis subulatus) and
Say Bat (Myotis lucifugus) should be looked
for in R. I., as they will almost certainly be
found to occur. In fact Mr. J. M. Southwick
has a number of small bats on hand
for determination and I hope to find these
species among them.

I have ~~looked~~ looked in vain for the Pine
Mouse, which in the time of Audubon and Bachman
was "abundant in the orchards of Rhode Island."

The Panther must be called Felis euguar.

The Star-nosed Mole is abundant in R. I., but seems
not to have extended its habitat to the islands. Two
other species of the Mole — the Naked-tailed and Hairy-
tailed Moles — should occur in Rhode Island.

List of publications on Mammals
of Rhode Island.

Taylor, A. O'D. The Daily News, Newport
Rhode Island, October 30, 1888, p.
Notice of a paper entitled "Some of the
Small Wild Mammals of Aquidneck
Island," read by Mr. A. O'D. Taylor
before the Newport Natural History
Society at a meeting held October 29,
1888. The species receiving particular
mention were Putorius vison, Tamias
striatus, Blarina brevicauda, Mephitis
mephitis, and Fiber zibethicus. The
various species of rats, mice and weasels
deserved a plainer notice."

In the publications of the Newport Natural History
Society this paper is thus referred to:

Communications

October 29, 1888. Mr. A. O'D. Taylor read
a paper on "The Wild Mammals of Aquidneck
Island."

J [allman], Mrs. M. M., "An abandoned
Skunk Farm." Providence Journal,
Sunday, January 7, 1894.

Anomalous. "Dull in the Senate". - New-
port Daily News, Thursday, February 1, 1900,
p. 5.

Refers in part, to the passage of an act, which prohibits the killing of any Deer in the State of Rhode Island before February 1, 1905. It is stated that there are a few Deer in Washington county.

Anomalous. The Newport Daily News, of Thursday, February 13, 1900, p. 6, contains the following:-

"Last week Mr. Horace G. Maitland shot a hair seal in Castle Hill cove, hitting it in an eye. The seal was skinned and its skin mounted."

Anomalous. The Newport Herald, of Saturday,
January 24, 1900, contains the
following on page 8:—

"A few evenings ago a strange and
unwelcome visitor appeared in the vicinity
of Rhode Island avenue. Where he came
from, how and why he came there no one
knows but himself. He left his card
creating a double sensation to the neigh-
bors of that locality. It was a skunk."

Anomalous. The Newport Daily News, of Monday, March 19, 1900., page 5, gave the following: -

"Yesterday the remains of a whale, about half eaten, came ashore on the east end of Second beach."

(This was the first notice. I failed to find the whale.)

Anomalous. "An Unwelcome Deposit," The
Newport Herald, Wednesday, March 21,
1900, p. 8.

"A portion of the carcass of a whale
has come ashore on the Second beach
at Middletown, giving an unpleasant
job to the health authorities."

Anomalous. The Newport Daily News of Thursday, March 22, 1900, p. 5, gives a reference to the whale that was reported ashore on the Second beach, Rhode Island island under the heading "Horse Rescued From A Whale."

"In the Journal. Prov. Dec. 7, 1896, under
Lonsdale, a report of taking 2 Raccoons."
J. W. Douttwek, in letter dated Dec. 18, 1899.

Providence Journal, of November 13,
1897; May , 1897; "sometime in
the autumn of 1896."

Reports of the occurrence of Deer
in Rhode Island. Carpenter farm,
Quidnesset Neck, etc.

"Bulletin, Providence, August 17, 1896.
Is an account of Beluga. There
were several articles about that
time. The creature was just below
Providence for several days."

"These previous references can be
verified at the files of the Journal Co.
Westminster St., or I have the cut-
tings at my desk here."

James M. Southwick, letter dated
Dec. 18, 1899.

Records of the Colonies of Rhode Island
and Providence Plantations, in New-
England.

Vol. II, 1857.

page 16. Law relating to pursuit of Whale
and "Dubertus" in R. I.

Picturesque Rhode Island.

J. A. & R. A. Reid, Publishers.

On page 167 "Mr. Wilkinson, at N.
Providence, or Chippingishcock, shot
one out of a sweet apple tree." ^{fish}
James. Mr. Southwick

"Geneological Dictionary of Rhode Island
(J. C. Austin, Author). Jonathan
Whipple, in October, 1680, killed a wolf
not far from Providence."

"David Whipple, while hunting deer,
killed one ~~not far from~~ near to Providence,
February 2, 1681."

"Benjamin Whipple killed another,
April, 1683."

James M. Southwick, letter dated Dec. 30, 1899.

"Tenth Census. Amos D. Perry.
R. C. report, 1885, page 42.
Moshassuck = Moose = Moose
hunting ground. Indian name for
Providence." fide James M. Southwick.

R. I. Register. Arnold Ed - 1891.
Has some report about Beavers.
Editor. James M. Southwick.

History of the State of Rhode Island
and Providence Plantations, etc. By
Samuel Greene Arnold.

Vol. II.

1701 - 1790.

Third Edition.

1878.

p. 54.]

References to bounties paid on Wolves,
Foxes, Crows, Blackbirds, Gray
Squirrels, Rats, Wildcats, and Bears,
in the State of Rhode Island.

To the great work on Treadrups
of North America, by Audubon and
Bachman, only two subscriptions
were obtained in Rhode Island, viz.:
~~Philip~~ Phillip Allen, Esq., of Providence,
and the Providence Athenaeum.

Audubon and Bachman say of Lepus americanus: "It is found [in] . . . all the New-England States." Vol. I, p. 101.

They also state: "We have found this species [Arvicola pennsylvanica] in all the New England States, where it is very common." Vol. I, p. 345.

Condylura cristata

Audubon and Bachman* "have traced it in all the New England States."*

* Quad. of North America, II, 1851, p. 142.

Arreola prietorum * Audubon and Bach-
man, Quad. of North America, II, 1851,
pp. 216 - 219. "It is found in Connecticut,
is quite abundant on the farms in
Rhode-Island, and in the immediate
vicinity of New-York." [p. 219.]

Felis concolor Audubon and Bachman Quad.

of North America, II, 1851, pp. 305 - 313.

"It was formerly found in all the
Northern and Eastern States [p. 312]."

	Alexander Carswell	Daniel Carswell	?
	See	Coldrani Leonard Elizabeth Stuart	?
Belonade Carswell		Shubael ^{RE}	Massachusetts East New Bedford Mass
	Reoncile Terry		
	Terry	Belonice	?
		Hathaway	?

Papers Collected for Records
of Rhode Island Mammals.

1. Jordan's Manual of Vertebrates, 2d & 5th Eds.
2. True's Review of Family Dolphinidae.
3. Garrison Allen's Bats, last edition.
4. Random Notes by Southwick and Jencks.
5. Coues and Allen. Monogr. Rodentia.
6. Coues's N. Am. Mustelidae (No R. references).
7. Proceedings of the Rhode Island Natural History Society.
8. De Kay's N. Y. State Mammals. 1842.
9. Colonial Records of State of Rhode Island, Vols. I-III.
10. Audubon & Bachman's Quadrupeds N. Am. Vols. I, II & III.
11. Merriam's Mammals of the Adirondacks, N.Y.
12. American Moles. True. 1896.
13. Preliminary List of N.Y. Mammals. Miller. 1899.
14. Geological Survey of Rhode Island. Jackson.
15. Mammals of N. Am. Baird. 1859 ^{to R.I.} No references
16. Smithsonian and U.S. Nat. Mus. Reports for 1896,
1895, 1894, 1893.
17. Proceedings of the Newport Natural History
Society. 1883-1891. Documents 1-8.

A List of the Publications
on Rhode Island Mammals.

"The Rodentia of Rhode Island." —
Random Notes on Natural History,
Vol. I, No. ~~1~~, p. 4, July, 1884; No. ~~2~~, p. 5,
September, 1884; Vol. II, No. ~~1~~, p. 12, February,
1885; No. 5, p. 35, May 1, 1885; No. 6, p. 42,
June 1, 1885; No. 8, p. 60, August 1, 1885.
Lepus Americanus var. Virginianus,
Lepus sylvaticus,
Arctomys monax,
Tamias striatus,
Sciuropterus volucella,
Fiber zibethicus, and
Hesperomys lecopus. "S."

"American Otter — Lutra canadensis"
[in Rhode Island]. "Random Notes
on Natural History", Vol. I, No. 6, p. 5,
June 1, 1884. Notices of the capture
of the Otter at Portsmouth, Pawtuxet,
and near Bristol, in 1883 and 1884;
also "reports of several more."

" Flying Squirrel (<u>Petromys volucella</u>),	
R. I.75 to 1.25
" Chipmunk or striped Squirrel (<u>Ya-</u> <u>maia striatus</u>), R. I., Mich.60 to .75"
" Wood chuck (<u>Arctomys monax</u>), R. I., Ct.	2.00 to 2.50
* White-footed Meadow Mouse (<u>Hes-</u> <u>peromys leucopus</u>), R. I.75
" Meadow Mouse (<u>Arvicola riparia</u>), R. I.	1.00"
" Jumping Mouse (<u>Jaculus hudson-</u> <u>ius</u>), R. I.	1.25
" Muskrat (<u>Fiber zibethicus</u>), R. I., Wis.	[.1.00 ⁹⁵] 1.50"
" Red Bat (<u>Atalapha vore borealis</u> = = sis). R. I.60"
" Silver-haired Bat (<u>Vesperugo noe =</u> <u>tirigans</u>), R. I.75"
" Carolina Bat (<u>Vesperugo fuscus</u>), R. I.75"
" Shrew (<u>Blarina brevicauda</u>)	
" Otter (<u>Lutra canadensis</u>). Fla., R. I. 10.00 to 12.00	
" Ermine Weasel (<u>Putorius erminea</u>), R. I.	1.50

"Sciurus Carolinensis — Gray
Squirrel [in Rhode Island]. — Ran =
= dom Notes on Natural History, Vol. I,
No. 11, p. 5, November, 1884.

This article, though without the
usual heading caption, evidently
belongs to the series on "The Rodentia
of Rhode Island", by Southwick?

"Rare and Desirable Goods Lately
Received at the Natural History Store
of Southwick & Jencks, Providence,
R. I." — Random Notes on Natural
History, Vol. I, No. 3, ~~Feb.~~ p. 2, adver =
= tising sheet, February 2, 1884; Vol. II, No. 4,
p. 4, add. sheet, April 1, 1885; No. 8 p. xxxvii
Among the mammals offered on sale
are the following-named species specifically
stated to have been taken in Rhode Island:

Vulpes fulvus

"American Fox (Vulpes fulvus), R. I. 5.00 to 8.00"

"Mink (Mustela vison), Dak., R. I. 3.00 to 6.00"

"Common Weasel (Mustela novaboracensis), R. I. 1.00 to 1.50"

"Gray Squirrel (Sciurus carolinensis) 1.00"

R. I., Wis., Fla. 1.00

"Red Squirrel (Sciurus hudsonicus), .75"
R. I., Mich.

(over)

James M. Southwick. The Rodentia
of Rhode Island. — Random Notes
on Natural History, Vol. I, No. 7, p. 4.

"Varying hare, Lepus Americanus var. Vir-
ginianus."

"The Wood Rabbit, Gray Rabbit, or Molly
cotton-tail, Lepus Sylvaticus Bach."

M. H. S. Hathaway sent me a
Bat from R. I., which I sent to Mr.
Gerrit J. Miller, Jr. who identified
it as Myotis subflavus ~~and~~ ^{and} wrote
the name and his initials on label.
Eau.

Wildcat was shot over ~~the~~
~~the~~ bar at Narragansett.

Stuffed in the Narragansett
Hotel. Seen Thruby May
Philip Peckham Jr. ^{about} 1880

He saw a Coon Skinned
at Cooked, Killed at Narragansett
about the same time.

Station..... 189.....

For.....

Gms. or Cc.

Rx

No. Surgeon, U. S. A.

Weasel

Mr. Philip Peekham saw a New York Weasel at his place in Middletown, R. I. September 1900.

Years ago he killed one with a stone.

Station

189

For

Gms. or Cc.

Rx

No.

Surgeon, U. S. A.

State of Rhode Island.

(From 9th Ed. Encyclopedia Brit.)

Actual land area 1054.6 square miles

Waters of Narragansett Bay 360 square miles

It lies between $41^{\circ} 18'$ (the town of New Shoreham on Block Island, is beyond this limit) and $42^{\circ} 3'$ N. lat., and $71^{\circ} 6'$ and $71^{\circ} 55'$ W. long., its greatest length from north to south being about 48 miles, and its greatest width from east to west about 35 miles."

Station

189

For

Gms. or Cc.

Rx

No.

Surgeon, U. S. A.

Wink 5 1876 - 3 lbs 5 oz
a few silver hairs &
broken teeth.

Seal shot in the Bay
Mar 18. Had a ring from
an oyster pot, around
its neck, so small that
it had worn into its neck.

1876

Eromine Weasel length

10 1/2 tail 2 3/4, t. L. 2 1/2

Wilson H. Peckham
Chepachet R. I.
says Flying Squirrels are
plenty Cotton-tail and
White Rabbits and
a boy is said to have
recently shot a Fox Squirrel

He also speaks of
Beaver down found
in the Harbor Pipe
near to Foster.

Harper's Weekly Vol. XLIV, No. 2286, p. 962, "The Moose Season
in Maine", half-page illustration "A Camera-shot at a Bull
Moose. — Photographed from Life by J. Mott Hallowell."

Petrochelidon melanogaster (Swainson).

Mexican Cliff Swallow.

Hirundo melanogaster Swainson, Philos. Mag.
n. s., I, 1827, p. 366.

Petrochelidon melanogaster, Cabanis, Mus. Hein., I,
1850, p. 47.

Four years ago Mr. Philip Peckham, Jr., saw ~~these~~ four big Black Fish running in to shore near Dertuate Point.

Four years ago he got one in Daugest Point in a net.

The Tursiops tursio of which I sent skeleton to Wash. was caught in net by Mr. Peckham in October, 1898.
12 or 13 feet long

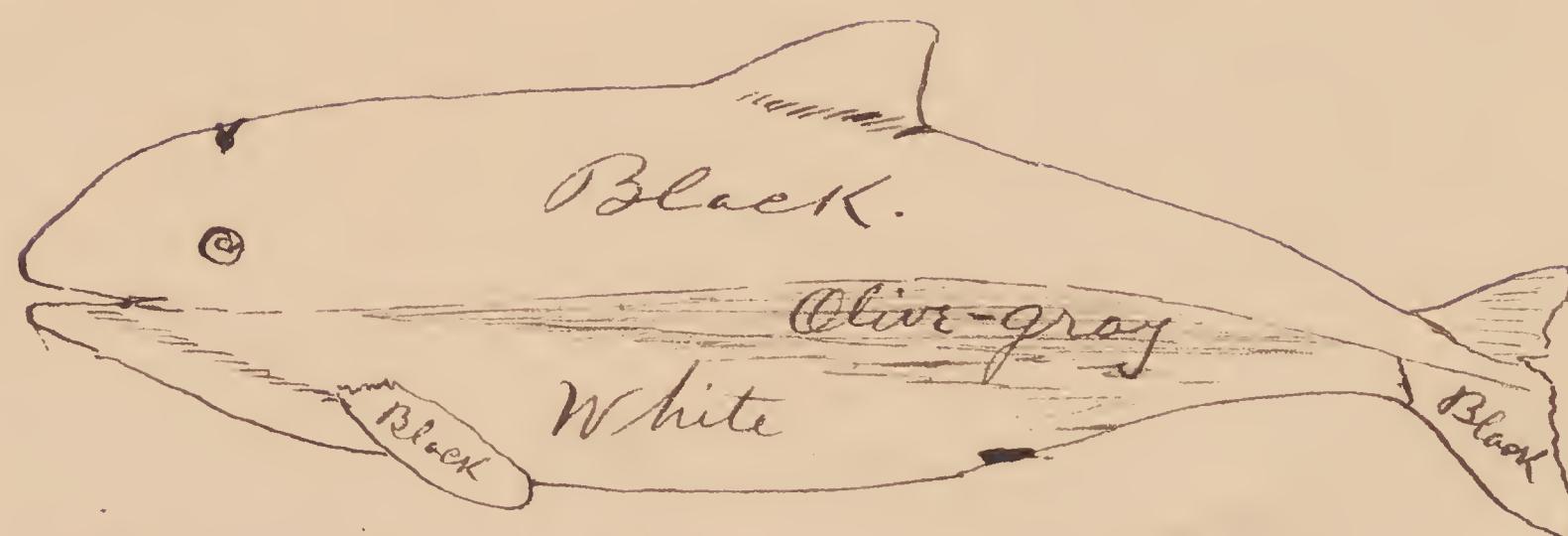
Mr. Peckham saw Fin-back spouting in the Easton's Point breaker about 20 years ago

A Tursiops tursio came ashore between the U. S. Naval Training Station and Newport on August 1900. I went to see it August 28, but reached the beach just after it had been hauled out to sea. Collected.

1

Description of a Harbor Porpoise or Puffing-Pig, Phocaena
phocaena (Linnaeus), from near Newport, Rhode Island.

No. 4544, collection of Edgar A. Mearns. An adult male, caught, June 11, 1900, on the fishing shoals in the East River off the Third Beach, in Middletown, Rhode Island, in fish traps belonging to Mr. Philip Peckham, Jr., who estimated the weight at 80 to 100 pounds. The entire skeleton, and a small piece of the cuticle, were sent to the United States National Museum at Washington, D. C.



Coloration.— The general effect is of a sharply bicolored animal—black above and white below; but, extending below the lower border of the black, the sides are of a beautiful olive-gray Belly, including lower jaw except close to angle of mouth, pure white; dashed or shot (not marbled or mottled) with olive-gray posterior to the anus and on the sides above. All fins, black. A dusky line extends from upper border of lower jaw back to the base of the pectoral. Blowhole lined with "neutral tint" (Windsor and Newton's colors).

Measurements.— Total length, measured in a straight line from end of snout to notch at end of flukes, 55 inches; same measurement, following dorsal curves, 58 inches; greatest circumference of body (anterior to dorsal and posterior to pectorals), 35; least circumference of caudal peduncle, 7; distance between base of pectorals, below, 5.5 inches; length of mouth (gape), 4.5 in.; tip of nose (premaxillae) to eye, 6.3 in. (160 mm.); from tip of mandible to anus, 35 inches; anus to bottom of notch between flukes, 18 inches.

(Description of Harbor Porpoise— concluded.)

Fin measurements:—

Length of caudal, 125 mm. (about 5 inches).
Greatest width of caudal (across flukes), 343 mm. (13.5 inches).
Length of pectoral, following anterior border, 225 mm.
Length of pectoral, following posterior border, 150 mm.
Greatest length of pectoral, measured in a straight line, 220 mm.
Width of pectoral at base, 90 mm.
Greatest width of pectoral, 78 mm.
Length of dorsal, 190 mm.
Height of dorsal, 120 mm.

The following measurements were taken afterwards, from the roughly cleaned skeleton, and are only approximately accurate:

Length of head, 320 mm. 670
Tip of snout to dorsal, 670 mm.
Tip of snout to pectoral, 310 mm.

Remarks.— The blow-hole is directly over the eyes.
Stomach (first cavity) contained about half a gallon of masticated flesh and bones of the Common Scup or Porgy (Stenotomus chrysops (Linnæus)); second cavity of stomach, empty.

Edgar A. Mearns.

Notes on the mammals of Rhode Island.

translationalis

Lepus Sylvaticus: Common at Bristol, becoming rarer
each year.

Fiber sibiricus: Common at Bristol, Cranicut, and
on the Island of R.I.

Microtus pennsylvanicus: Abundant at Bristol,
Cranicut, and on the Island of R.I.
noveboracensis

Peromyscus leucopus: Abundant at Bristol.

Thomomys decimatus: Abundant at Bristol.

Thomomys musculus: Common in woods and along
the old stone walls as well as in the bushes at
Bristol.

Arctomys mazax: Common at Bristol, at Cran-
icut perhaps rather uncommon, on the Island
of R.I. common.

Tamias striatus: Common at Bristol.

Sciurus hudsonicus leucurus: At Bristol the most
common Squirrel, but much rarer than in
Eastern alluvial districts.

Sciurus carolinensis leucurus: At Bristol locally

not uncommon.

Sciurus perspicillatus: One picked up dead on clt. Hope in the summer of 1891.

Sciurus borealis: Not uncommon at Bristol.

Castor canadensis? Common (no specimens taken)

Phoca vitulina: Not uncommon on rocks (Seal

Rock, clt. Hope Bay) in Narragansett Bay in the fall.

Putorius cacoquani: Not uncommon on the

Second Beach marshes at Middleboro in the stone walls. They feed on birds which are shot and left about the blinds by local gunners. Also found on the Paradise Hills.

Uroplatus mephiteca: Common at Bristol, Coventry and on the island of R.I.

Vulpes pensylvanicus: Uncommon, compared with formerly at Bristol.

One taken Aug. 29
1899 ♀ and a ♂
Aug. 28 1899.

Measurements of Rhode Island specimens of *Eotomys*

No.	Sex and age	Locality	Length	Tail vertebræ	Tail, hairs	Hind foot	Head	Ear, crown	Ear, notch
143	♂ ad.	Cedar Swamp, 3 miles west of Chepachet, Providence Co., R.I.	142	41	47	19	27	7.5	14
144	♀ ad.	do	150	44	50	19.5	28.5	8.	14.5
145	♂ ad.	do	146	38	44	19.	29.5	9.	14.5
146	♀ juv.	do	128	35		18.5		,	
147	♀ ad.	do	152	47	53	19.	29	9.	13
4570	♀ ad.	do	149	42	48	18.	28	9.	14
4571	♀ ad.	do	144	42	48	18.	27	9.	14
4572	♀ juv.	do	118	33		17.			
4573	♂ ad.	do	155	47	54	20	30.5	9.	14
4574	♂ ad.	do	148	45	51	20	29	10.	15
4579	♂ ad.	do	140	42	46	19	29.	9.5	13
4583	♂ ad.	do	150	42.5	47	19	29	10.	14
4584	♂ ad.	do	141	43.	49.	20.	27	9.	13
4585	♀ imm.	do	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4586	♂ juv.	do	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Average of 7 Adult males			148.6	42.6	48.7	19.4	28.7	9.1	13.9
"	" 4	" females	148.8	43.8	49.8	18.6	28.1	8.8	13.9

Fox Hill May 24, 1705, p. 238. "seven miles from
y^e hill Called Foxes Hill & no farther."

Dogs belonging to Indians distract English cattle 121, p. 87.
The above is all that is contained in
the Providence records Vol. XX

August 24, 1900

Brushed in front door broken
Screen door in front door does not
fit.

Skunks.

Mr. Philip Peckham, Jr., has
caught 56 Skunks on his
place during Years 1892-1900.

Bounty 50 cents. on Skunk
Musk 1.00 bounty
Dog 2.00 "

Station

189

For

Gms. or Cc.

Rx

No.

Surgeon, U. S. A.

Dr. J. M. Heard, M. D. surgeon
drewed a bone from whale stranded
~~near~~ ^{near} Belmont Beach (the beach between
Dreyfus's and Belmont Beaches
76 ft. long
15-16 years ago. "This was
the largest whale that ever came
ashore on this island."

Station..... 189.....

For.....

Gms. or Cc.

Rx

No. Surgeon, U. S. A.

Mr. Philip Peckham, Jr., saw a
Fin-back Whale on Easton's Bay,
about the year 1885, ^{in summer} A. good
many people saw it

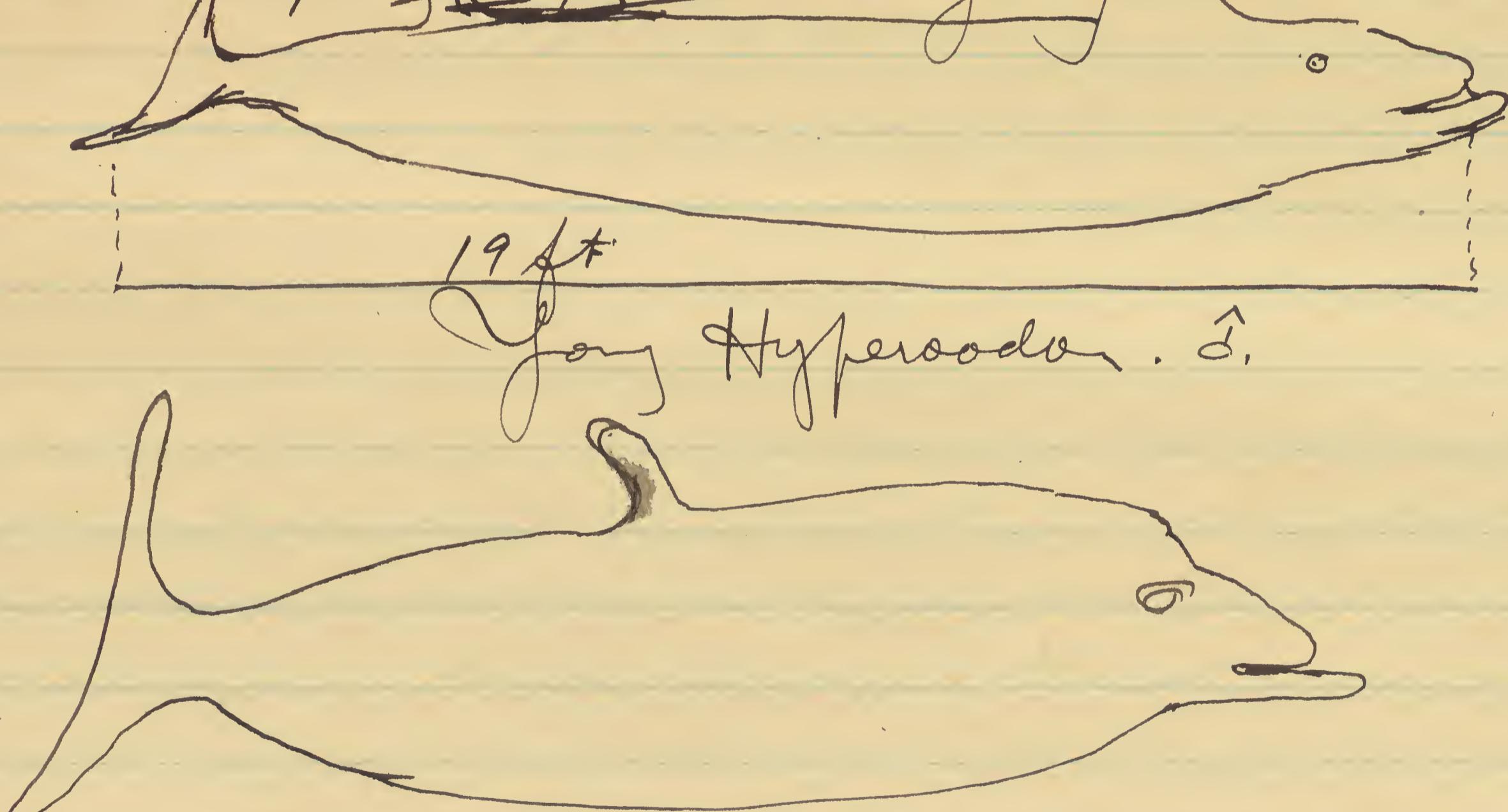
1023-

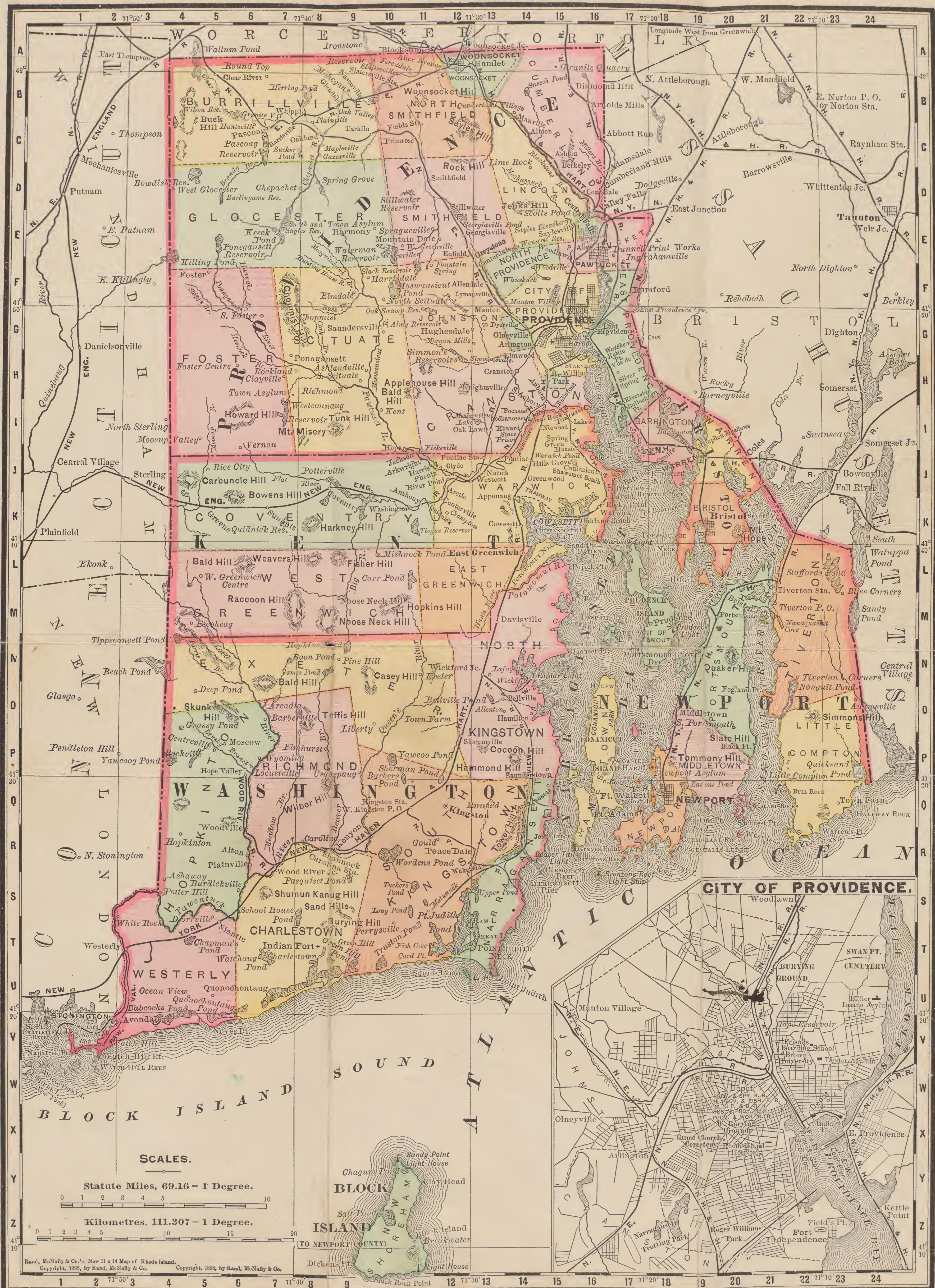
"H. Adams, R. I.,
October 27, 1901.

"I send you a rough picture of the whale as he now looks. I am positive as to the fin on his back. He has a projected under jaw like this . He is 19 ft. long according to Captain Soderman's measurement and I think he is about $4\frac{1}{2}$ ft. wide. ^{He is a young male.} His tail is I think not straight with his back-bone but twisted to one side like the blades of a screw-propeller. He was sick and was harpooned under his left fin. He is beginning to smell very unpleasantly. All at home are well and we are all sorry to hear that Captain Stone is not going to come home. The drawing of the whale is on the last page. He is at present tied up inside the "Basin" at the Stone Dock. Will try to find out what kind of whale it is.

Good bye
Lewis

P. S. Have seen a good many Bluebirds around here lately. ~~They are singing.~~





Excuse hasty scratch.
We are rushing you off to
Venezuela with Wirt Robison
on 3 days notice, so everyone
is on the jump. They sail
Thursday (you must leave here
Tuesday 19th) and will be gone
2 months - & perhaps more.

Your snuff box skeleton &
other things to hand over.

G. S. M. Jr.

Have you some short notes
like these for Biolog Soc? We
will get out another ~~for~~ bunch
soon I believe.

Dear Miller:

I notice that you use the name Vulpes fulvus Desmarest for the Red Fox.

In 1890, I carefullly compared the Red Fox of England with the Red Fox of New York and found them to be distinct species.

Unless Desmarest's name fulvus was founded on American specimens, another name must be used.

Is ~~Vulpes~~ pennsylvanicus Boddaert the next name in order, and did he spell it with one pennsylvanicus, or pensylvanicus (one two ns or three)?^{1 2}

I have no copy of Boddaert.

Yours truly Yours
Edgar A. Mearns.

¹ Vulpes fulvus - type locality Virginia

² Boddaert's ~~one~~ name is based on 'brant fox' of Pennant which is Wroeyon. Am not certain about the ns. Sincerely G. S. M. P.

Forrest Emerson Buchanan
50 Webster St.,
Newport, R. I.

Mustela noveboracensis Emmons.
New York Weasel. Mrs. Buchanan,
grandmother of Forrest E. Bush,
had a Cat that brought in
an "Ermine".

Lasius cinereus (Beauvois).

Hoary Bat.

About the end of September, 1894, Mr. Philip Peckham, Jr., shot a very large Bat, which he described as having hairy wings and interfemoral membrane like the Red Bat, on Eastons Pond. It fell into his boat and was closely examined.

"I have studied my Newport Bat, and am satisfied on account of its black-bordered ears, and the tufts of hair on the fore-arms, that it is the Hoary Bat (Atalapha cinerea), ♀?, though it is a trifle short in measurements." James M. Southwick, in letter dated January 9, 1900.

"I have a record of a Hoary Bat which if of interest I will look up for you. Kindly let me know your wants and I will do all in my power to help you." H. S. Hathaway in letter dated Dec. 17, 1899.

"Hoary Bat. See Random Notes; and we have a mounted specimen from Newport." James M. Southwick, in letter dated Dec. 18, 1899.

Lasiurus cinereus (Beauvois) Hoary Bat. Sheet II.

"I believe I reported a Hoary Bat from Newport. I know that they are at this [Providence] end of the Bay, but am a little shaky about my Newport specimen. Will study it the first of coming week and be sure." James M. Southwick in letter of Dec. 30, 1899.

"Hoary Bat. Atalapha cinerea (Beauvois) Peters." — Random Notes on Natural History, Vol. II, No. 11, p. 81, November 1, 1885.

"We x x x have just been so fortunate as to receive one alive from West Freetown, Mass., It has since become the property of Brown University x x x no capture has been recorded for Rhode Island."

"Since the writing of the [above] following article on the Hoary Bat a fine specimen has been shot in East Providence, R.I., and is now in the possession of Mr. S. W. Field."

Above notice misigned but written by Mr. James M. Southwick.

Lasiurus borealis (Müller).

Red Bat.

"Wood or Red Bat. Daggett, Lonsdale, and Central Falls, Rhode Island." Frank Blake Webster, in letter dated March 17, 1900. Period covered by Mr. Webster's observation, from 1867 to 1884. Identification uncertain, as he probably confounded other small Bats (Myotus aubulatus, etc.) with this species, under the name of "Wood or Red Bat."

"Found by Mr. James M. Southwick at Providence and Johnston, Rhode Island. See letter dated Dec. 18, 1899.

Among other mammals advertised for sale by messrs. Southwick and Jencks at their ^{Natural History} ^{Store in Providence}, on page XV of Random Notes on Natural History, Vol. II, No. 4, April 1, 1885, was the "Red Bat (Atalapha noveboracensis), R. I. .60. "Repeated Vol. II, No. 8, page XXXII, August 1, 1885.

Myotis subulatus (Day).

Day's Bat.

"Light Brown Bat or Wood Bat" ^{Beake} ~~xxx~~ Lousdale,
and Daggots, R. I." Frank Webster in letter
dated March 17, 1900. This note is referred
here with some doubt, as Mr. Webster confused
the Red Bat and a smaller species which I suppose
may have been Day's Bat. Period from 1867-'87.

Note. - As Mr. Webster recognized but two
kinds of Bat, the "Big Brown or Black Bat"
and the "Light Brown, Red, or Wood Bat,"
the present species cannot be considered
a Rhode Island mammal without further
evidence of its occurrence.

Homo sapiens americanus.

The North American Indian is now almost extirpated within our borders

Man stands at the head of the list of organized beings in our systems of classification. The Whale is ~~the~~ the largest mammal; but, though the largest, they are about the lowest in their organization and stand near the bottom of the list of mammalia, with Man occupying the highest place at the other end of the scale. But when the Whale swallows Jonah, extremes meet, and opposite ends of our system unite to form a circle, with its beginning and end everywhere or nowhere to our hopeless confusion. I must respectfully decline to identify such complex specimens, though all others, excepting the aforesaid house rats and house ~~mice~~, mice will be welcomed with gratitude.

Colonial Records, Vol. I, p. 125. Indians to be employed to kill the wolves. See Index.
Noted Indians: Miantonomi

Conanicus (father)
Meakeaw (son)

Mishamnok father of Conanicus.

Narragansett Indians.

Roger Williams states that the name Narragansett ("Mahiganset") "was so named for a little island." [p. 26]

COLLECTION OF REGINALD HEBER HOWE, JR.

A. O. U. No. Coll. No.

Name *Blarina brevicauda*

Locality *Bristol, R. I.*

Date *September 19, 1900*

Sex. ♀

Length *4.68* Color of Upper Mandible

~~Head~~ *1.11* Lower Mandible

~~Wing~~ *1.11* Color of Tarsus

~~Tail~~ *1.25* Color of Feet

~~Handfoot~~ *.57* Color of Web

Bill (Culmen) Color of Iris

Contents of Stomach

Collected by Reginald Heber Howe, Jr.

Remarks *A black stripe on sole —*

Specimen seems in other ways

somehow peculiar —

(over)

Sorry I did not have time to
clean skull - or make
better skin - if not
measure twice and
keep as you like. The
Blarina brevicauda is
very abundant here.

The black mark on the
nose of this specimen
does not show now as
well as when in the
flesh.

Harp Seal weighed 192 lbs.

ON THE RECENT OCCURRENCE OF THE BLACK RAT (Mus rattus Linnaeus)

IN BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS. — Under date of July 11, 1900, Mr. Frank Blake Webster, ^{of Hyde Park, Massachusetts}, wrote me as follows: "About a year ago, a young man

who lived in Boston said there were Black Rats in a store there.

We had him obtain a specimen, which was mounted, and which we still ^{many}

have. During all the ^{years} that I have been engaged in business

in the city of Boston I have never seen one." The specimen was ✓

sent to me and identified as Mus rattus by Doctor J.A. Allen and

myself.

Edgar A. Mearns.

Dipodomys ordii var. montanus, Baird,

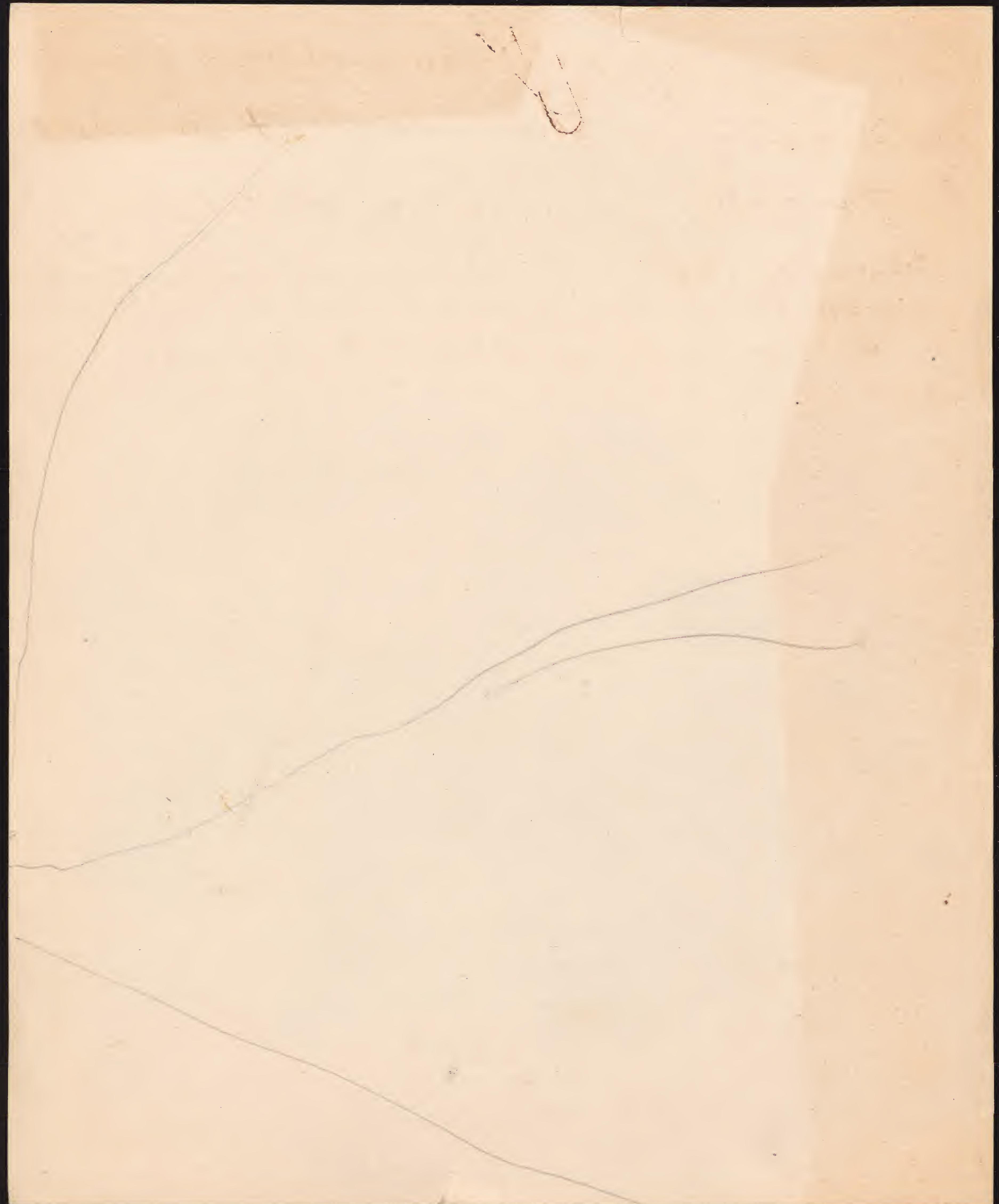
Mammals of North America, 1857, p. 410, 411
, young adult

Plate LXXXVII, fig. 4, a, b, c (teeth E of No. 1631 $\frac{490}{490}$).

Collected by Captain E. G. Beckwith, near Fort
Massachusetts ("N.M. - On head of Rio Grande
in San Luis valley. Altitude, 8,365 feet. Latitude
37° 32'; longitude, 105° 23'").

Dipodomys montanus Baird, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci.,
Phila., Vol. VII, April, 1855, p. 334

Dipodomys elator Merriam, Proc. Biol. Soc.
Wash., Vol. IX, p. 109, June 21, 1894 (type from
Harrietta, Llano Co., Texas).



No. 13656 U. S. N. M.

Megaptera longimana Rudolphi.

Taken at Provincetown, Mass.

NOTE ON Dipodomys montanus BAIRD.—Among the mammal types treasured in the collection of the United States National Museum is the type of Baird's Dipodomys montanus, originally described in the Proceedings of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, in 1855, but figured and more fully elaborated in that author's Mammals of North America, published in 1857. This well-marked species proves on comparison to be strictly identical with Dipodomys montanus elator Merriam, named and described in the Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington, in 1894. The synonymy of Dipodomys montanus will therefore be as follows:—

Dipodomys montanus BAIRD, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., April, 1855, p. 334 (Fort Massachusetts).

Dipodomys ordii var. montanus BAIRD, Mammals of North America, 1857, pp. 410, 411, 757, 762, pl. LXXXIII, fig. 4, a, b, c (teeth of type—No. 1631, ^{49°} youngish adult). Type collected by Captain E. G. Beckwith, ^{49°} near Fort Massachusetts ("N.M.—On head of Rio Grande, in San Luis valley. Altitude, 8,365 feet. Latitude, 37°- 32'; longitude, 105°- 23'").

Dipodomys elator MERRIAM, Proc. Biolog. Soc. Wash., Vol. IX, p. 109, June 21, 1894 (type from Henrietta, Clay Co., Texas).

1631
490

Edgar A. Mearns.

Dear Mr. Miller:

Please kindly add the above

to my notes in Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash. ^{about 45 miles}

Yrs.
Mearns